

INFORMATION PAPER

ON

A/OA-10 TARGETING POD

1. Background. Although the A/OA-10 Precision Engagement (PE) Program includes targeting pod *integration*, the program does not include targeting pod acquisition. Procuring an A-10 targeting pod is integral to the PE Program. The pod must possess exceptional standoff capability outside of most surface-to-air threats, 3rd Generation Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR), Laser Spot Track (LST), and superior capability for targeting J-Series weapons and Inertial Aided Munitions (IAMs). The pod must maintain a high Fully Mission Capable rate and support USAF two-level maintenance. The Northrop Grumman Litening targeting pod was successfully employed during OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM with spectacular results. These operations demonstrated that the A-10 is immediately capable of employing a targeting pod. ANG acquired 30 Litening Pods for the A-10 thus far. There are 18 additional pods needed to fulfill the requirement.

2. Requirement. CAF Operational Requirements Document CAF 401-91-I/II/III-D for A/OA-10 Aircraft Multi-Staged Improvement Program (MSIP)

3. Impacts If Not Funded. Aircraft capability is greatly reduced and puts pilots at increased risk during combat operations. Without a targeting pod the A-10 aircraft cannot fulfill Combatant Commander's need for precision tasking.

4. Units Impacted.

103 FW Bradley, CT	104 FW Barnes, MA	110 FW Battle Creek, MI
111 FW Willow Grove, PA	124 WG Boise, ID	175 WG Baltimore, MD

5. Contractor. Northrop Grumman, Rolling Meadows, IL; Lockheed Martin, Orlando, FL

6. Cost.

Units Required	Unit Cost	Program Cost
18*	\$1.3M	\$23.4M

*Includes 8 pods and 1 Spares Kit per unit.